



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

**Committee Bill No. 5484**

LCO No. 5912

\* \_\_\_\_HB05484HS\_\_\_\_032007\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS )

**AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE FEDERAL SPECIFIED  
LOW-INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARY PROGRAM AND THE  
QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2007*):

4 (f) The Commissioner of Social Services may be the authorized  
5 representative of a ConnPACE applicant or recipient for purposes of:  
6 [enrolling] (1) Enrolling in a Medicare Part D plan, [or] (2) submitting  
7 an application to the Social Security Administration to obtain the low  
8 income subsidy benefit provided under Public Law 108-173, the  
9 Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of  
10 2003, or (3) facilitating the enrollment in a Medicare Savings Program  
11 of any applicant or recipient who elects to participate in said program.  
12 The applicant or recipient shall have the opportunity to select a  
13 Medicare Part D plan and shall be notified of such opportunity by the  
14 commissioner. The applicant or recipient, prior to selecting a Medicare  
15 Part D plan, shall have the opportunity to consult with the

16 commissioner, or the commissioner's designated agent, concerning the  
 17 selection of a Medicare Part D plan that best meets the prescription  
 18 drug needs of such applicant or recipient. In the event that such  
 19 applicant or recipient does not select a Medicare Part D plan within a  
 20 reasonable period of time, as determined by the commissioner, the  
 21 commissioner shall enroll the applicant or recipient in a Medicare Part  
 22 D plan designated by the commissioner in accordance with said act.  
 23 The applicant or recipient shall appoint the commissioner as such  
 24 applicant's or recipient's representative for the purpose of appealing  
 25 any denial of Medicare Part D benefits and for any other purpose  
 26 allowed under said act and deemed necessary by the commissioner.

27 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) Beginning with the fiscal year  
 28 ending June 30, 2008, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the  
 29 Commissioner of Social Services shall increase income disregards used  
 30 to determine eligibility by the Department of Social Services for the  
 31 federal Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary and the Qualifying  
 32 Individual Programs, administered in accordance with the provisions  
 33 of 42 USC 1396d(p), by an amount that has the effect of equalizing the  
 34 income levels used to determine eligibility for said programs with  
 35 income levels used to determine eligibility for the ConnPACE program  
 36 as prescribed in subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general  
 37 statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	17b-492(f)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

**HS**      *Joint Favorable*